

Playing around with Poems

A poet sees things through different eyes.

e.g the sea is a hungry dog

the beach is a watermelon that the sea devours

...the moon is a silver hubcap

See if you can describe an object by saying it is like something else.

Take a pineapple and think what it could be apart from a pineapple... pot with a plant in it; a fish with a fancy tail; a hose nozzle with water squirting out; a broken glass with water splashing out; a crab with its long nippers.

A large picture can also be explored and described in this way.

Look at some shells and describe them as being like something else.

Use the structure of the poem below to write about the shell

My Autumn leaf

My Shell

My autumn leaf
is red and brown
it has tiny specks
all over it like a banana
it has a pointed end
like a star

Myshell
isand.....
it has.....
like a.....
it has.....
like a.....

Anna, aged 5

Other things to do with poetry

Play around with words, have fun, be mischievous, read lots of word play poems like Eve Merriam, Spike Milligan, Michael Rosen, Roger McGough.....

Use the framework of a poem and change for your own poem.

Read poems and look at the rules they follow. Use the rules for your own poem.

Poetry from Room 8 at Richmond school, Napier (5 and 6 year olds)

Christine Braid
Literacy adviser 2002

My seaweed
is blue
it has a shape
like a boat wake
it has messy hair
like when you wake up

My shell is white
it has sharp edges
like a kina
it has smooth edges
like a pillow
Joshua

My paua is white
it has bumpy bits
like a starfish
it has holes
like a row of bubbles
Fendah

My shell
is brown and white
it has a white pear
like a marble
it has a smooth top
like a frisbee
Mana

Kereru Juniors: Leaf poems

My leaf is yellow, orange and green.
It looks like a hedgehog
with spikes on its back
and its nose sticking out.
Chelsea

My leaf is brown and yellow.
It has spikes.
It is like a hungry shark.
T.T.

My leaf is like a combine harvester.
The ragged edge is like a cutting knife.
Cutting grain.
James

My leaf is red.
It is like fire
and it is like a sp.
with a hundred
Peter

My leaf is green.
It looks like a skinny man
Wearing big clothes.
Scott

My leaf is colourful.
It is like a fire from a dragon
And I am the dragon.
Russell

My rainbow str
is all of the colours
like a rainbow
it has bumps
like riding in the car
Jordan